

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend this application on page 1; line 1, by inserting the following new paragraph:

This is a continuation of Application No. 09/680,435, filed October 6, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 14 and 15 of the specification, as follows:

Various methods may be employed to implant the splints 14 in the orientation shown in Figure 2a. One particularly advantageous method is an endovascular delivery technique shown and described in co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[\_\_\_/\_\_\_,\_\_\_]] 09/679,550 to Robert M. Vidlund et al., entitled "Endovascular Splinting Devices and Methods," filed on the same day as this application and commonly assigned to the assignee of this application, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein. Splints 14 also may be positioned in the orientation shown in Figure 2a by other surgical techniques, such as those described in the '049 application incorporated by reference above. For example, to gain access to the ventricular septum S, a small incision can be placed within the right ventricular wall to allow for positioning tension member 16 and the anchor assembly 18 within the right ventricle RV. The methods of implantation shown and described in the applications referred to above may be used in connection with any of the embodiments shown and described herein.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:**

Please replace the originally-filed drawings with the nine (9) replacement sheets of drawings (Figs. 1, 2a, 2b, 3a-3c, 4a-4c, 5a, 5b, 6, and 7) submitted herewith. No substantive changes are being made to the drawings, but rather the replacement sheets are intended to put the drawings in formal format.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER <sup>LLP</sup>

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)